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Mercantile Summary.

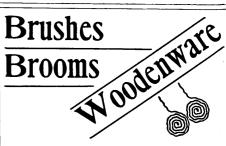
THE Canada North-West Land Company seems to be doing better this year. The sales of agricultural land in the first three months amounted to 2,800 acres, for \$15,000, which is seven times as much as was sold in the same period of 1895.

In an article in its issue of 22nd April, commenting upon the report for 1895 of the Palatine Insurance Company, and the speech of the president of that fire office, the London Review says: "He [the president] gave full and complete reasons why the Palatine declined to carry unprofitable lines for the mere sake of showing a large volume of business. There is no doubt that Canada and the Pacific Coast must be marked up as 'Dangerous' for all fire offices-at least for the present-and the Pacific Coast more especially. We are sure that the Palatine will not be the last to step out of these particularly unprofitable districts. This is not pleasant reading for Canadians.

In Montreal we note the following late failures: J. B. Bourguignon, grocer, has filed consent to assign, and shows liabilities of \$5,802, of which \$4,300 are due on a mortgage. Loiselle & Frere, in the same line of business are offering 25 cents, secured by their mother. -P. Picotte, contractor, whose failure we have noted, proposes to pay his mortgage creditors 20 per cent. cash, and 10 per cent. on time, and his ordinary creditors 10 in three and six -Pierre Duplessis, a butcher, who has also been doing a small grocery business of late. has made an assignment; and O. Lafrenieres. also in the butchering line, has compromised liabilities of \$3,000 at 50 cents on the dollar.

A DEPUTATION from the Commercial Travellers' Association of Bradford, England, was received by the British Postmaster-General last month. They had a grievance to lay before his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, namely, that they are daily collecting large sums of money in payment of accounts, and in many cases such payments are made too late in the day to allow of the money being lodged in a bank. Thus they suffer from peculiar danger of being robbed, spending so much of their time, as they are obliged to do, in places of more or less public resort, such as hotels and trains. Therefore they ask that increased facilities be given for the transmission of money through the postoffice. At present the charges for postal orders for large amounts are prohibitory, and they seek to get them reduced. The Postmaster-General has promised to give the matter immediate attention.

An old-time hatter and furrier, at St. Johns, Que., M. Guillet, has surprised his creditors by asking them to accept 25 cents in the dollar, cash, on their claims, and investigation would probably tend to show that the estate would not pay as much if wound up. Mr. G. was supposed to be in fair financial shape, but it appears he has been living on his capital for several years past, his sales last year being less than \$5,000 it is said. He owes about \$4,500. -A. H. Choquet, books and stationery, St. Hvacinthe, Que., has made an assignment. A week or so ago he asked his creditors for an extension of time, but apparently thought better of his first resolve, and has turned his estate over to the assignee, his wife fyling a claim for \$2,000, which will about absorb all the assets. General liabilities are about \$1,000, and assets apparent about \$2,000 --- Damase Caron, St. Ours, Que., put into insolvency recently by a Quebec house, offers 65 cents, at six, nine and twelve months.



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